

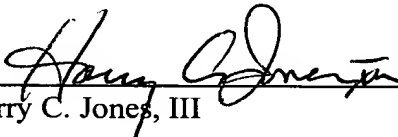
Finally, claims 5-14 are patterned after the claims in U.S. patent 5,881,898 granted March 16, 1999. In particular, independent claim 5 corresponds to independent claim 1 of the '898 patent with certain limitations being removed. Dependent claims 6, 7, 8 and 9 are each dependent on claim 5 of the present application and correspond, respectively, to dependent claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the '898 patent. Finally, claim 10 of the present application is identical (except for lettering and numbering of the subparagraphs) to claim 1 of the '898 patent. Similarly, except for the dependency of the claims, claims 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the present application correspond to claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the '898 patent.

With respect to the '898 patent, it shows that it has been assigned to Sonoco Products Company (Sonoco) and was filed January 11, 1996. The present continuation application is based on German priority applications 94 17 442.3 filed November 3, 1994 and 94 14 955.0 filed September 15, 1994. Accordingly, it is submitted that applicant is entitled to claims 5-14 as contained in the present application.

Further, with respect to the Sonoco '898 patent, applicant initially made the Examiner aware of Sonoco's corresponding and subsequently filed EPO application, EPO 784 020 A1. At that time, applicant was aware only of the claims of the published EPO application and copied claims corresponding to that application in the parent application 08/793,751. These claims have been allowed. It is submitted that in addition, applicant is entitled to claims 5-14 of the present application based on an earlier priority filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

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